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LETTER DATED 2 APRIL 1993 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Further to my letter of 18 March 1993 and the statement issued by the President on behalf of the members of the Security Council dated 26 March 1993 (S/25478), I am pleased to report to you and your colleagues in the Council about the outcome of my meetings with the leaders of the two communities in Cyprus.

As the members of the Council are aware, the two leaders had accepted my invitation to meet with me in New York on Tuesday, 30 March to discuss the timing, modalities and preparation for the resumption of substantive negotiations as mandated by the Security Council. I met separately with the two leaders on Tuesday morning. This was followed by a joint meeting on Tuesday afternoon. At the conclusion of that meeting my spokesperson issued a statement on the outcome of the joint meeting (see enclosed copy). I also hosted a working luncheon for the two leaders on Wednesday, 31 March.

I am pleased to inform you that the two leaders agreed to resume the joint negotiations on Monday, 24 May at United Nations Headquarters using the Set of Ideas for the purpose of reaching freely a mutually acceptable overall framework agreement. Furthermore, they agreed that the joint negotiations beginning on 24 May will be preceded by a preparatory process in which my representatives will meet with them in Nicosia to clarify and address the concerns of the two leaders related to the Set of Ideas with a view to facilitating progress at the resumed joint negotiations, as well as to discuss the implementation of confidence-building measures with a view to creating a new climate of confidence which will contribute to the success of the negotiating process.

I wish to assure you and the members of the Council that I will make every effort to move this process forward. In this connection, I emphasized to both leaders the expectation of the members of the Council that the resumed joint negotiations will result in significant progress, as well as their determination to remain seized of the Cyprus question on an ongoing basis and to lend their active support to my efforts.

(Signed) Boutros BOUTROS-GHALI

Annex

PRESS RELEASE

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL MEETS WITH THE LEADERS OF THE TWO COMMUNITIES IN CYPRUS

The Secretary-General met jointly today with the leaders of the two communities in Cyprus at United Nations Headquarters. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the timing, modalities and preparations for the resumption of substantive direct negotiations as specifically mandated by the Security Council.

The two leaders reaffirmed their commitment to cooperate with the Secretary-General in the context of his mission of good offices. They expressed their willingness to resume the joint negotiations on Monday, 24 May 1993 at United Nations Headquarters using the Set of Ideas for the purpose of reaching freely a mutually acceptable overall framework agreement.

The joint negotiations will be preceded by a preparatory process in which the representatives of the Secretary-General will meet in Nicosia with the leaders of the two communities. The object of this preparatory process will be to clarify the specific concerns of the two leaders relating to the draft overall framework agreement contained in the Set of Ideas and to address those concerns with a view to facilitating progress at the resumed joint negotiations in New York. They will also discuss the implementation of confidence-building measures with a view to creating a new climate of confidence which will contribute to the success of the negotiating process.

The Secretary-General has welcomed the declared intentions of the two leaders to meet privately from time to time and to hold meetings with the heads of the political parties from both sides in parallel with the negotiations under his mission of good offices. He believes that such encounters can help overcome long-standing mutual distrust and can contribute to the success of both the preparatory process and the joint negotiations.

30 March 1993